

Basic Fee						\$ 750.00
Total Claims	1	-	20	=	0 x 18	= \$ 0.00
Independent Claims	1	-	3	=	0 x 84	= \$ 0.00
Total Filing Fee						<u>\$ 750.00</u>

3. A credit card payment form including the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 1-33 before calculating the filing fee. A Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

--This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 10/270,543, filed October 16, 2002, which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 10/023,719, filed December 21, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,529,467, which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/773,557, filed February 2, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,343,056, which is a continuation application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/149,051, filed on September 8, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,236,635.--.

7. New drawings are enclosed, fifteen (15) sheets, Figs. 1-17.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174  
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663  
John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293  
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Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

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Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.



**24956**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

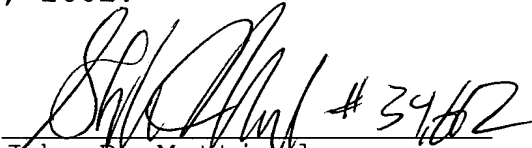
9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

10. Priority of the following Japanese patent applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 9-243669, filed September 9, 1997.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application Serial No. 09/149,051.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/270,543, as originally filed on October 16, 2002.

  
John R. Mattingly  
Registration No. 30,293  
Attorney of Record

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR  
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Date: June 23, 2003

PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
FEE RECORD SHEET

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